

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 9, 10, 13, and 21 are amended. No new matter is added by the present amendment.

Applicants thank Examiner Amrany for his consideration in conducting an Examiner's interview with the undersigned representative on September 20, 2007, during which agreement was reached regarding claim language that distinguishes the independent claims over the art of record. During the interview, language was discussed that would clarify, with regard to the invention of claim 1, for example, that the first comparison means supplies the selected logic value when only a first of the acceleration signals is greater than its upper threshold *and* when only a second of the acceleration signals is greater than its upper threshold. The undersigned representative noted that this feature, in combination with the other elements of claim 1, distinguished the claim over the art of record.

For example, the Jeenicke reference (U.S. patent No. 5,788,273) provides a device including a longitudinal sensor and a transverse sensor (1:65-2:3). When the device indicates a longitudinal acceleration greater than a predetermined value (resulting from a signal from the longitudinal sensor alone), an actuating signal is produced (2:8-11). However, when the device indicates a lateral acceleration, regardless of the value, (resulting from a signal from the lateral sensor alone), no actuating signal is produced (4:38-43). Thus, Jeenicke does not anticipate or teach the limitations of claim 1 as currently presented.

The amendment to claim 1 incorporates the language agreed upon by the Examiner and the undersigned representative. Similar language was discussed and agreed upon with regard to claims 9, 10, 13, and 21, each of which has been amended accordingly. Applicants understand, therefore, that the independent claims, together with their respective dependent claims, are now in condition for allowance. The rejections of the previous Office Action are therefore moot, and will not be discussed further.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/788,962
Reply to Office Action dated July 27, 2007

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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